

## Crisis Clinic - #9253

**Mission Statement:** "Our passion is caring and listening - empowering people to make positive life changes. We do this through connections between people and critical resources."

Crisis Clinic has been at the heart of the Seattle-King County safety net for nearly 50 years, providing a comprehensive array of telephone support services including: the 24-Hour Crisis Line, King County 2-1-1, WA Recovery Help Line, and Teen Link. Our services are often a "first call for help" for anyone in our community experiencing crisis, whether they're in need of emotional support or seeking assistance with basic needs.

Individuals and families experiencing crisis don't often know where to turn for help and have difficulty navigating the complexities of the mental health and human services systems. Crisis Clinic's telephone services provide a free and easily accessible way for people in crisis to reach out and get the help they need. We provide caring, compassionate support and connect callers to resources and services where they can get further assistance.

We assist some of the most vulnerable people in our community – those experiencing a mental health crisis or considering suicide, those experiencing homelessness or with incomes below poverty level, at-risk youth, immigrants/refugees, seniors and those living with disabilities.

In 2012, we answered over 232,000 calls for help from your neighbors in need. Thank you to King County employees for supporting our mission and making our work possible!

### **What do King County Employee Giving Program dollars do?**

Crisis Clinic serves as a lifeline for thousands of individuals and families in our community each year. Here are a few examples of how your donations have helped our callers:

*"I called yesterday at the end of my rope and thinking about suicide. The volunteer I spoke to was so kind, patient and understanding. I'm feeling better today and I'm ready to reach out and get the help I need. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."*

– Caller to 24-Hour Crisis Line

*"You helped me find shelter for myself and my two daughters when we were homeless. Now we're moving into transitional housing. I really appreciate all that you do!"*

– Caller to King County 2-1-1 from Bellevue, WA

*"I have anxiety and struggle with family issues at home. When I'm in a bad place, I wonder what it would be like if I was gone, but never really considered suicide. Now I know where to get help. I have peace of mind knowing there are people like you who understand teens. Thank you."*

– Student from Kellogg Middle School in Shoreline

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### Why is the King County Employee Giving Program important to Crisis Clinic?

Donations received from King County employees through KCEGP provide critical and sustainable support to our programs. Because of the generosity of individuals like you:

- We answered a record-breaking 233,000 calls in 2012. The need for our services continues to grow and your support means we'll continue to be available 24/7 to help anyone in King County experiencing crisis.
- Our Teen Link program recently became the first teen-answered help line in the country to be fully accredited by Contact USA, the national organization of crisis intervention centers.
- Crisis Clinic recently acquired the WA Warm Line, a peer support help line for people living with mental illness.
- We are one of only three centers in the US who will begin answering the Crisis Text Line in 2013, a new text messaging help line for youth ages 13-25.

### Anthony's Story

Anthony had been on a waiting list for affordable housing for a very long time and finally got the call that an apartment had become available. As a senior living on a fixed income, he worried he wouldn't be able to rent the apartment because he couldn't afford the security deposit or moving costs. Knowing that Crisis Clinic's 2-1-1 had been helpful to him in the past, he decided to give us a call.



"When I called, I was hoping you could help me find just enough money to pay the security deposit or the moving costs. Instead, you referred me to an agency that paid not only my deposit, but the first three months of rent! If it weren't for 2-1-1, I'd have had to go to many different churches and agencies, asking for help, trying to piece together enough money. Calling 2-1-1 made all the difference."

Anthony has now been living in his new apartment for nearly three months and is enjoying the safe and quiet community he now calls home. As he told us, "Being able to move here has been such a nice blessing in my life. I'm so thankful to 2-1-1 for helping me with this wonderful transition."

Stories like Anthony's are made possible because of donors like you. It is your generosity which allows us to continue answering thousands of calls like this each year, connecting callers to the resources and services they need. Thank you for considering a gift to Crisis Clinic through KCEGP!